(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (f) the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Dhaka-Calcutta Bus Service

863. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are keen to launch Dhaka-Calcutta Express bus service; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The detailed modalities have not been finalised.

Setting up of Export Oriented Oil Refineries

864. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give permission for setting up Export Oriented Oil Refineries;

(b) if so, whether such refineries are likely to be granted deemed export benefits in respect of sales to domestic market *via* international tendering or otherwise;

(c) whether such domestic sales would be exempted from customs duty;

(d) whether provisions of Sec. 80HHC and Minimum Alternate Tax of the Income Tax Act, will be applicable to profits made by such refineries;

(e) whether as a result of the indirect subsidies and exemption as above the proposed EOU refineries would enjoy an undue competitive advantage over domestic refineries; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Education in English Medium

865. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh propose to provide education through English medium to the students belonging to poor and backward classes in the Government schools; and

(b) if so, the view point of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Gas and Oil Exploration

866. SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI
DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :
SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR :
SHRI RUPCHAND PAL :
SHRI ANIL BASU :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that gas and oil is coming out through tubewells in different parts of the Sundarban area of West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to send ONGC expert to examine this;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Purchase of Aircraft

867. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state: